

ENGLISH CUP.—SECOND ROUND.

LUTON V. ST. ALBANS.

A CRUSHING REVERSE FOR THE SAINTS.

The fortune of the draw in the national trophy competition again gave Luton a journey, their destination this time being St. Albans. The supporters of the City team, who had created some surprise by eliminating the Vampires at Norbury in the first round and with a goal to spare, professed to be highly delighted at the prospect of meeting their professional neighbours and some even rashly ventured upon hopes of victory. How thoroughly form was vindicated on Saturday is now a matter of history and the Albanians had to endure a crushing defeat. The encounter took place in the Clarence Park, St. Albans, the recent magnificent gift of Sir J. E. Maple, M.P., and a "record" crowd of about 3,000 assembled to watch the game. About a thousand came over from Luton, some eight hundred travelling by special excursion train. It had been hoped that Gallacher would play but that was unfortunately found impossible his ankle still being weak, and Brown took his place. Allen was left out of the forward rank for Prentice, Dimmock being on the wing. In the home team, Rathbone, Stanley and Ware were absent but their team included Gresham, Taylor and Heath, of Crouch End, with Giddins, a soldier from Devonport and Ayles, of Clapham Rovers, while Laughton, who has now thrown in his lot with St. Albans, played last season for Crouch End.

The Reds were first on the field, and the Saints in white shirts, followed soon after, both sides having a good reception. It was five minutes past three when the players took up their positions in the following order:—

Luton:—Bee, goal; Chester and McEwen, backs; Watkins, McCrindle (capt.), and Howe, half-backs; Brown and Finlayson, right; Galbraith, centre; Prentice and Dimmock, left, forwards.

St. Albans:—J. Dickerson (capt.) goal; C. H. Ayles and W. A. Sargent, backs; F. Mardall, A. H. Taylor, and J. W. Sharpe, half-backs; E. N. Sharpe and H. R. Laughton, right; F. B. Gresham, centre; W. Giddins and J. J. Heath, left, forwards.

Referee: Mr. S. R. Carr, R.A., (London).

Linesmen: Messrs. H. Shane (Luton) and H. Payne (St. Albans).

The weather was fine but dull when Galbraith started against a slight breeze, the home captain having won the toss. The Luton men at once attacked, Brown finishing up a run by shooting behind. Then the other wing had a turn and Dimmock centring, Prentice shot in, but Dickerson saved. For some reason, the St. Albans custodian was given a free kick, the ball having apparently being in touch. Galbraith and Taylor in turn became prominent, and then Gresham shot yards behind though subsequently given off-side. The Saints' right wing made a little headway but McEwen relieved and Dimmock quickly ran down, sending across a fine centre which Brown just missed converting into a goal. The Luton left-winger next tried a shot on his own account. Dickerson rushed out to fist away, but Galbraith secured and finding an open goal,

OPENED LUTON'S SCORE

9 minutes from the start in a very easy fashion, the success calling forth loud cheers from the visiting contingent present. Immediately on the kick-off, the Reds pressed and a hot shot from Galbraith nearly proved too much for the home goal-keeper, who a minute afterwards, however, saved finely from Dimmock, a corner resulting. This was the first flag-kick of the day and Brown poorly negotiated it, placing right behind. The Saints next made an incursion, Chester heading away from Laughton while Bee ran out of goal directly afterwards but Gresham relieved his anxiety by shooting over. At this point, Taylor, who was playing a vigorous game, was fouled by Finlayson. From the kick, McEwen gave a corner in trying to clear: Gresham placed well but Giddins sent over the bar. The scene of operations was quickly removed and eventually a neat centre from Brown

WAS CONVERTED INTO A SECOND GOAL.

thanks to a smart shot by Prentice. Luton were now two goals ahead after twenty minutes' play. Finlayson had a chance of scoring soon after but shot too high while from the goal-kick, Heath gave Bee a handful and subsequently Cheeser conceded a corner to "Ern" Sharpe. The hopes of the locals, however, were doomed to disappointment as J. W. Sharpe shot over the cross-bar. The Saints for a space were in Luton quarters, but McEwen cleared several times when danger threatened. The Reds then pulled themselves together, and the Albanians were practically hemmed in from now to the interval. Twice Dickerson cleared and from a corner, well taken by Brown, the ball appeared

TO CROSS THE GOAL-LINES

but nothing was allowed. "Roland," however, had better luck with the next flag-kick, from which Dimmock scored the third goal of the day. Half-time was now close at hand and the only incidents of note were a couple of corners to Luton and a couple of fouls against Mardall, the Reds leading at the interval by 3 goals to nil.

Just before the cross-over, a perfect storm of rain fell, completely drenching ground, players and spectators alike. The down-pour lasted nearly the whole of the second half and made the turf in a terribly sodden condition. Owing to the slippery surface, the play of both teams naturally deteriorated. But Luton were first to attack and the game was scarcely five minutes old, when first Prentice and then Brown put on two more points to Luton's credit, Galbraith and Dimmock respectively giving assistance. The visitors still pressing, Sargent gave a corner but Finlayson headed over. A brief incursion by the home forwards resulted in Bee's kicking out but the Reds retaliated and Dickerson gave a corner from a smart cross-shot by Brown. This brought no advantage and the Whites breaking away, Gresham sent in a hard shot which Bee only partially cleared and Laughton

REGISTERED THE SAINTS' FIRST POINT

with a low drive into the far corner of the net, amid the loud cheers of the home supporters. This was half-way through the second moiety, but directly after the re-start, a foul against J. W. Sharpe produced Luton's sixth goal, McCrindle placing well into goal, and Prentice doing the needful. A momentary spurt was made by Giddins, but Bee was equal to the occasion, and then Dimmock and Finlayson in turn missed two fine openings. The rest of the play was all in Luton's favour, but the visitors only once broke through, Prentice shooting into the net from a centre by Brown. Luton's appeal for a goal, was, however, disallowed by the referee, but Mr. Carr, we believe, made a mistake. The home defence—Dickerson, Taylor, and Sharpe, in particular—were so vigilant and industrious that further danger was averted, though Howe narrowly escaped scoring "on his own," and three corners proved unavailing. At time the Luton team had easily qualified for the third round by 6 goals to 1.